

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/630,915

Examiner

Justin R Fischer

Applicant(s)

BIDET, MONSIEUR BERNARD

Art Unit

1733

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 21 October 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12,14,15, and 21 (renumbered 1-15).
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-12, 14, 15, and 21 (renumbered 1-15) are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

It is well known in the tire industry to include a rubber layer between an innerliner and a carcass for a wide variety of benefits, including improved adhesion (and thus durability), damping resistance, and air impermeability. Furthermore, such rubber layers are commonly formed of blends comprising natural rubber (or synthetic polyisoprene) and styrene butadiene rubber, as shown for example by Sueyoshi (JP 07237405) and Hattori (JP 10297209). However, none of the prior art references of record suggested, disclosed, or taught the specific rubber layer of the claimed invention, particularly a rubber layer formed of the above noted blend, wherein the natural or synthetic polyisoprene has a majority of chains with cis-1,4 bonds and the solution styrene butadiene rubber is present in an amount that is at least 50 phr and contains the claimed relationships regarding the amount of diene chains and the amount of vinyl aromatic chains. For example, Sueyoshi substantially teaches the claimed rubber composition, including the use of SBR, in combination with synthetic polyisoprene, in an amount between 80 and 97 phr of the blend, but specifically describes the use of trans 1,4 polyisoprene, which is in direct contrast to the claimed invention (requires majority of chains be cis-1,4). Alternatively, while Hattori describes the general use of natural rubber, which is recognized as having a large amount of cis-1,4 bonds, the reference specifically teaches that the relevant rubber layer is to be formed of a large amount of

natural rubber (at least 70 phr). Thus, the prior art references of record fail to suggest, disclose, or teach a tire construction in which the relevant rubber layer has each of the claimed characteristics/properties and one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would not have found such a modification to be obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Justin R Fischer** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1215**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Blaine Copenheaver can be reached on (571) 272-1156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Justin Fischer

November 3, 2004

  
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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